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PP RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHKUK RUEHROV
DE RUEHLB #0289 0541250
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 231250Z FEB 07
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7504
INFO RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 0905

UNCLAS BEIRUT 000289

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NSC FOR ABRAMS/DORAN/MARCHESE/HARDING STATE FOR NEA/ELA, NEA/FO:ATACHCO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PREL PTER LE

SUBJECT: LEBANON: GLOBAL INITIATIVE DEMARCHE DELIVERED

REF: STATE 21535

Polchief delivered reftel demarche on the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism to Oussama Khacchab, Americas Desk Officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who promised to pass the demarche points to his superiors. Khacchab asked whether the USG or other partners in the Global Initiative would offer travel funding to national delegations attending the Initiative's third meeting in Kazakhstan. Polchief responded negatively but promised that he would inform the MFA if funding becomes available. Khacchab pledged to explore the possibility of the MFA endorsing the Initiative's Statement of Principles. It is worth noting, however, that policy decisions at the Ministry have been stalled since the November resignation of the Foreign Minister as part of Lebanon's ongoing political crisis.